

PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
BIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON

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DESCRIPTIONS OF TWO SUBSPECIES OF POCKET  
GOPHER (*THOMOMYS BOTTAE*) FROM  
SONORA.

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Study of pocket gophers from Sonora, Mexico, shows the presence there of two races which previously have not been recognized.

***Thomomys bottae occipitalis***, new subspecies.

*Type*.—Adult female, skin and skull, no. 82221 Mus. Vert. Zool., collected at La Misión, 2 miles west of Magdalena, Sonora, Mexico, on March 17, 1938, by Margarito Delgadillo. Original number 4835 Seth B. Benson.

*Distribution*.—Known only from the type locality.

*Diagnosis*.—A medium-sized dark-colored race of *Thomomys bottae* characterized by a relatively great extension of the supraoccipital region posterior to the lambdoidal crest.

*Comparisons*.—Compared with *Thomomys bottae modicus* Goldman, *occipitalis* is larger, less reddish in color. Skull larger, palato-frontal depth and nasal length relatively less, dorsal surface less convex antero-posteriorly, supraoccipital and exoccipital regions more inflated, bulge on supraoccipital above foramen magnum less distinct. Compared with *Thomomys bottae winthropi* Nelson and Goldman, *occipitalis* is smaller, darker and duller in color, with pelage denser and longer. Skull smaller, palato-frontal depth less, interorbital breadth relatively greater, zygomata less wide-spreading and narrower at squamosal base, zygomata smaller at juncture of jugal and maxillary, paraoccipital processes less prominent, occiput less truncate, mastoid portion of auditory bullae relatively more inflated.

*Color* (capitalized color terms after Ridgway, Color Standards and Color Nomenclature, 1912).—Dorsal hairs with tips black, subterminal bands Ochraceous-Buff, basal portions Deep Neutral Gray. In mid-dorsal region the subterminal bands are reduced, allowing color of basal portions to dominate. Color of the subterminal bands becomes more dominant and paler toward the flanks where it is Light Ochraceous-Buff. Hairs of ventral

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surfaces with bases of Neutral Gray and tips of Light Ochraceous-Buff. Muzzle blackish; throat, anal region, and feet white.

There is some variation in the series in the intensity of pigmentation and in the amount of black along the dorsum. Also, some specimens lack white on the throat and anal region. The specimens of *occipitalis* are definitely less reddish than the specimens of *modicus* and are darker and duller than the specimens of *winthropi*.

*Measurements.*—Average and extreme measurements, in millimeters, of seven adult females are: Total length, 224.5 (216–233); tail, 71.9 (64–79); hind foot, 29.4 (28–30); basilar length of Hensel, 33.8 (31.8–36.2); greatest mastoidal breadth, 19.9 (18.5–21.0); greatest zygomatic breadth, 23.6 (22.8–26.0); interorbital breadth, 6.9 (6.7–7.3); rostral breadth, 8.1 (7.6–8.6); palato-frontal depth, 14.3 (13.6–15.3); length of nasals, 13.0 (11.8–13.7). Measurements of seven adult males are: Total length, 245.8 (222–261); tail, 81.5 (73–93); hind foot, 30.3 (28–33); basilar length of Hensel, 36.5 (33.4–39.6); greatest mastoidal breadth, 21.5 (20.1–23.1); greatest zygomatic breadth, 26.4 (23.4–28.7); interorbital breadth, 6.9 (6.5–7.8); rostral breadth, 8.8 (8.1–9.4); palato-frontal depth, 15.4 (14.1–16.3); length of nasals, 14.3 (12.6–15.4).

*Specimens examined.*—Total number, 14, from the type locality.

#### ***Thomomys bottae estancae*, new subspecies.**

*Type.*—Adult female, skin and skull, no. 82247 Mus. Vert. Zool., collected at La Estancia, 6 miles north of Nacori, Sonora, Mexico, on May 19, 1938, by Margarito Delgadillo. Original number 5625 Seth B. Benson.

*Distribution.*—Known only from the type locality.

*Diagnosis.*—A medium-sized, cinnamon-colored race of *Thomomys bottae* characterized by a relatively narrow occipital region, broad interorbital region, and wide-spreading zygomatic arches, which features make the brain case appear narrow.

*Comparisons.*—Compared with *Thomomys bottae winthropi* Nelson and Goldman, *estancae* is smaller, more reddish. Skull smaller, zygomatic breadth and mastoid breadth relatively less, interorbital breadth relatively greater, anterior portion of zygomatic arch forming a more oblique angle with skull, mastoid portion of auditory bullae relatively less inflated. Compared with *Thomomys bottae camoae* Burt, *estancae* is smaller, dorsum lighter and brighter in color. Skull smaller; mastoidal breadth, zygomatic breadth, and palato-frontal depth relatively less; interorbital breadth relatively greater; supraoccipital region more extended posterior to lambdoidal crest; external auditory meatus smaller; nasals nearly straight (not expanded anteriorly); anterior end of auditory bulla truncate (not rounded); pterygoid hamuli less wide-spreading.

*Color.*—Dorsal hairs with tips black, subterminal bands Cinnamon-Buff, basal portions Deep Neutral Gray. In mid-dorsal region subterminal bands slightly reduced, revealing basal portions, thus giving dorsal surface a dark aspect. Color of subterminal bands more dominant and paler toward flanks, where color is Light Ochraceous-Buff. Hairs of ventral

surface with bases of Deep Neutral Gray and tips of Light Ochraceous-Buff. Muzzle blackish, cheeks Cinnamon-Buff, feet white.

There is some variation in the series in the intensity of pigmentation and in the amount of black along the dorsum. Compared with *camoae*, *estanciae* is lighter and brighter on the dorsum. Immature specimens of *estanciae* are definitely paler than those of *camoae*. Compared with *winthropi*, *estanciae* is slightly more reddish.

*Measurements.*—Average and extreme measurements in millimeters of three adult females are: Total length, 221.3 (210–228); tail, 68.6 (67–70); hind foot, 29.3 (29–30); basilar length of Hensel, 33.8 (32.5–35.1); greatest mastoidal breadth, 19.8 (19.2–20.3); greatest zygomatic breadth, 24.4 (23.9–24.9); interorbital breadth, 7.0 (6.8–7.2); rostral breadth, 7.9 (7.3–8.4); palato-frontal depth, 14.6 (14.0–15.4); length of nasals, 12.8 (12.8–12.9).

*Specimens examined.*—Total number, 7, all from the type locality.

*Remarks.*—Specimens of *T. b. divergens* from northeastern Sonora and western Chihuahua were not available to us for comparison, but judging from the original description of *divergens* (Nelson and Goldman, Journ. Mammalogy, vol. 15, 1934, pp. 122–123), *estanciae* is paler, for *divergens* was stated to be darker than *modicus* and we find *estanciae* to be paler than the palest specimens of *modicus*.